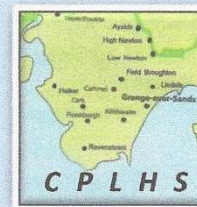


CARTMEL PENINSULA LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

"Bringing Local History to the Community"



Founded in 1996 with the aim of promoting an interest in local history within the area

Newsletter: January 2024

Contents

Chairman's Message

News

- Archive News
- Events
- Publications

Research

- Local Research

Society Information

- Contacts (Committee)
- Meeting Programme
- News and Article submission
- Social Media
- Website

Chairman's Message

A very happy and enjoyable New Year to everyone. I hope you have all had a lovely Christmas and New Year period.

We all have another excellent Newsletter here, prepared by Lyn Prescott to whom warm thanks are due. As you read on, you will also note the vast contribution from Pat Rowland, not only to this edition - but continuing her practice as in so many earlier editions as well as all else she does for us. Thanks to you, Pat, too.

New year is a time for advance planning - yes - but, also, I think, a time for reflection. I am convinced that the success of our Society comes from the two words at the beginning of my brief message: "happy" and "enjoyable". If we enjoy what we do together then we are happy; and if we are happy together then we continue to enjoy ourselves. This may seem obvious but I think it needs saying. Thanks to you all for this.

Our meeting programme for the coming year (thanks to Rose Clark) follows with, I am sure, lots more enjoyment and happiness for us all. Our excellent speakers will provide a wide and detailed look at local places and events and, I am sure, the proposed visits will, as always, be popular.

Keep well and stay safe.

Stuart Harling

Archive News

Cumbria Archives

Cumbria Archives have published the first edition of a new Newsletter which will now be published twice a year. Link to first edition:

<https://legacy.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/elibrary/Content/Internet/542/795/452711193.pdf>

Lancashire Archives

Lancashire Archives publish a monthly Newsletter. You can request a copy to be received by email by requesting this from archives@lancashire.gov.uk

It is also available online, link to December 2023 edition: <https://sway.office.com/SnyxjoHe9YUletke?ref=Link>

Events

Report On Discovery Meeting - 2 November 2023

18 people attended the latest Discovery Meeting in Cartmel Village Hall, the subject being Date Stones. Although Date Stones was the subject the speakers gave much more historical information around the date stones themselves.

- Nigel Mills introduced the subject stating that the Society started a database of Date Stones in 2013 and a large number in the areas had been identified but there were gaps in the information. He talked about Broughton Grove with a date stone of 1710 and the initials of William Fletcher and Newton Hall cottage with a date stone of 1673.
- Barbara Copeland compared 2 houses built next to each other on Church Road in Allithwaite, one with a date stone of 1895 and the other with a date stone of 1907. Piped water reached Allithwaite in 1900 and the building plans of each house showed how the 1895 house needed a cistern and pump whereas the 1907 house had no cistern. Barbara also showed how the problems of water supply to Allithwaite encouraged the local council to pressure the District Council to supply piped water to the village.
- Phil Rowland had researched the story behind the 1972 plaque at Merlewood previously attached to the 'new wing' commemorating the opening by Lord Howick of Glendale. Lord Howick was at that time the Chairman of the Nature Conservancy and a regular visitor to the site. He showed photos of the old and new laboratories and discussed some of the people involved in the Centre. In the introduction he showed the datestones: 1) 1853 on the lodge 2) 1862 Merlewood Farm & 3) 1881 on the Tower.
- Stuart Harling talked about the history of Hampsfield Hall in the Cartmel Valley. He showed photos of the inside of the building which included a spice cupboard with a date of 1687 and the initials WTT, which referred to William Thornburgh, the owner of the building. Stuart also showed what may be considered a beef box in the attic next to the large chimney breast.
- Jennifer Forsyth brought old photographs of some buildings in the Cartmel Fell area. Jennifer with her husband had taken photographs of the old farms and had them in albums with the date stones.
- Rose Clark talked about Susanna Newby who had inherited money and property from her husband's family. With this wealth Susanna improved her properties in the area which included at Head House farm, a date stone of 1845, at Crosthwaite, a date stone of 1844 and a barn behind Grange library with a date stone of 1845. At one stage she had 70 workmen working on her properties. She also gave the land on which Grange Parish Church was built. Jennifer added that Isabelle Newby refronted Cowmire Hall, Cartmel Fell around 1700.
- Lyn Prescott had researched Well Knowe house in the Cartmel Valley. It has a date stone of 1650 with the initials of BTE. Lyn discovered that Thomas (Gent) and Ellen Burscow were the original owners and she was still researching the family.

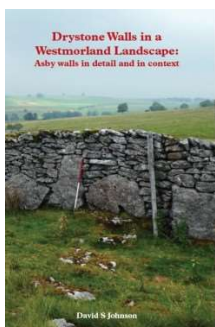
- Pat Rowland researched spice cupboard dates and she talked about bread ovens too, showing photos of the inside of old kitchens with the position of the above. Pat specifically researched the spice cupboard dated 1651 with the initials SRE which is in Outerthwaite Farm. She believes the initials refer to Robert and Ellen Simpson and then explained how the parish records in the Cartmel area were not fully completed at the time of the Commonwealth of England government, 1649 – 1660 and into the Restoration Government of Charles 11 from 1660. It is therefore difficult to confirm it is Simpson whose initials are on the spice cupboard.

Discussions followed each talk and questions were asked which added to a very diverse and interesting morning where refreshments were included.

Barbara Copeland

Publications

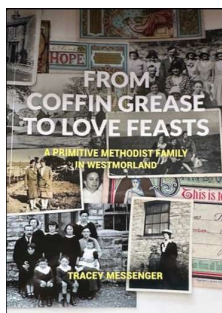
Drystone Walls in a Westmorland Landscape: Asby walls in detail and in context by David S. Johnson



A field and documentary survey of drystone walls in Asby parish was undertaken in 2022 as a community project under the Westmorland Dales Landscape Partnership scheme. Nearly 40 walls were surveyed and interpreted, and a typology of wall development was compiled based on detailed wall characteristics. The methods and rationale are explained in the book and the results and typology are compared with other walls in Westmorland and North Craven. Five broad wall types have been recognised.

Published 2023 by CWAAS. ISBN : 9781873124918

From Coffin Grease To Love Feasts - A Primitive Methodist Family In Westmorland by Tracey Messenger



At the turn of the twentieth century, in rural Westmorland, Tom Robinson walked into a Primitive Methodist chapel and emerged transformed. Previously a frequenter of the local pub, he renounced the 'demon drink' for good. From then, he would call beer 'coffin grease' and it would be replaced in his life by 'love feasts' (a Methodist term for a fellowship meal). His new faith became the focus of his life. Based on her own family history, Tracey Messenger paints a portrait of a lost world of love feasts, Bands of Hope, temperance rallies and evangelical fervour, once such a key part of local culture in the village of Newbiggin-on-Lune and the surrounding area and now largely disappeared. Published 2023 by Bookcase. ISBN:9781912181650

RESEARCH

Local Research

Research Enquiry Thanks to Pat Rowland

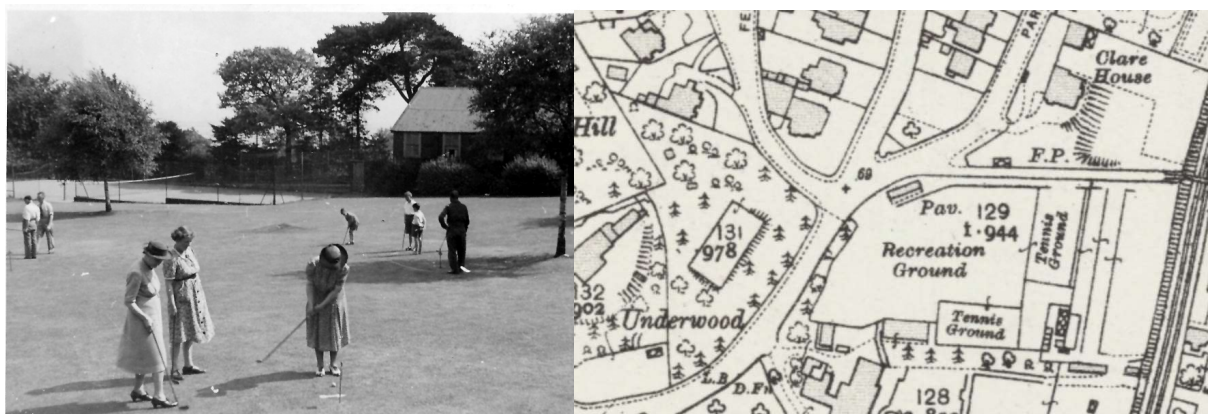
Recently I posted a request on the CPLHS Facebook page asking for help sourcing images of tennis in Grange during the early/mid 20C. period. I needed the images for inclusion in the Order of Service for the funeral of my mother Doreen Irwin (nee Hodgson) who passed away on 31st October. Mum was married at St Pauls in Grange in 1953 and played competitive mixed doubles tennis with her late father Arthur Hodgson at Berners Close and The Grange Hotel. CPLHS member Pat Rowland rose to the challenge and provided several images which were suitable, and which generated much interest among the mourners at Mum's funeral recently.



<http://www.cartmel-peninsula-lhs.org.uk/>

Grange and tennis were very close to Mum's heart right to the end of her 95 year life, so she would have been touched by the effort that Pat made – Mum's family certainly were. I understand that Pat frequently responds to requests for information from many people and she usually has the local history knowledge and sources to respond positively. I would like to thank Pat via this newsletter for her sterling efforts. My family appreciated her help, and I am sure all of the other people she has helped in a similar way would join me in thanking her. So, thank you Pat from the Irwin family and many others – you're a star and a valued member of CPLHS and the Grange and Peninsula community.

Dave Irwin



Christopher Rawlinson's will



In the Society's newsletter of June 2023 Jeff Appleyard wrote about Christopher Rawlinson's memorial that he found in St Albans Cathedral, and he wrote *'As he died intestate the estates reverted to the descendants of his aunts, Ann and Catherine, the sisters of his father Curwen Rawlinson.'*

Christopher had drafted a will leaving his estate to Rev Richard Rawlinson, son of Thomas who had been Lord Mayor of London, for his life. It was then to pass to Rev Richard's son or if he did not have one then to the son of Thomas, Richard's brother. A distant relation of Christopher, Rev Richard Rawlinson was educated at St John's College,

Oxford and became fascinated by old books and printed material, medieval history and antiquities, a passion that he shared with Christopher. Richard's brother Thomas was also a well-known bibliophile but was ruined in the South Sea Company collapse in 1720s and died in 1725. His library was sold in a series of 16 auctions between 1722 and 1734. Christopher also wanted to leave clothing and money to his servant Roger Wildman and £100 to Mr Roger Moore of Kirkby Lonsdale who had married one of his cousin's children.

A copy of the draft will, endorsed *'foul draft of the will of me, Chris Rawlinson, dated Aprill 23 1729'* (foul meaning an author's working draft) was found in the National Archives collection and this article investigates its contents. The transcribed document is in our research archive and easily accessed. The document was endorsed with information relating to investigations carried out when it was presented to the authorities.

On 24 March 1732, two months after Christopher's death in January 1732, several people who knew him well testified about the document that had been found amongst his papers *'the next day after the said deceased's death, found by the said John Chaamberlaine in a closett in the said deceased's lodgings in Holbourne Row in Lincoln Inn Fields, (the one folded within the other), amongst other papers and writings belonging to the said deceased.'*

The document was the will written by Christopher Rawlinson but it was not signed.

'be totally wrote and subscribed by and with the proper hand of the said Christopher Rawlinson deceased.'

<http://www.cartmel-peninsula-lhs.org.uk/>

It was ruled that it was not a legal will as it was not signed and witnessed. Subsequently on 2 May 1733 administration was granted to his closest, living relatives who were adult descendants of his father's sisters. *'to Ann Aylmer, Catherine Dixon, widow, and Mary Blake, the cousin germane and next of kin of the said deceased, they being first sworn duly to administer the same.'* These were the descendants of Christopher's Aunt Catherine. His aunt Catherine Rawlinson, had married Roger Moore of Kirkby Lonsdale (Middleton, Westmorland) and Christopher had left £100 to him in his draft will. Catherine and Roger had three daughters; Ann married William Aylmer, vicar of Wharton, but they were childless; Mary married Charles Blake, of London, and they too were childless; Catherine married Clement Rigg(e) of Hawkshead and they had three sons. Roger Rigg(e), born 1716, was the only son to subsequently have children with his wife Mary Fletcher of Field and Wood Broughton and Catherine Rawlinson's share passed down his family line. Roger's mother, Catherine, was widowed in 1718 but she married George Dixon in 1721. She was widowed again in 1728. His Aunt Ann Rawlinson had married Christopher Crackenthorp of Newbiggin Hall, Cumberland and their daughters were Ann and Deborah. Deborah died unmarried and Ann's share descended to Henry William Askew of Conishead Priory, Ulverston.

The estate would have been distributed according to the inheritance rules of the time. Some of Christopher's wishes expressed in the draft will were carried out.

I recommend my spirit to God, the Lord of spirits, who gave it, and my body to be interred in the North Isle of the church of St. Albans att St. Albans, I allow one hundred pounds [£100] and no more for my funeral, and I give one hundred pounds [£100] towards the repaire of the said church of St. Albans, and I allow two hundred pounds [£200] for a monument for myself with iron rails before it, (which monument is to be made by Mr Will Woodman, a Free Mason in Holbourne).

Christopher's wish to be buried and have a monument erected at St Albans Cathedral were carried out.

His funeral instructions specified

Instructions for my funeral I desire to be privately carried out of towne about 4 a clock in the morning, if I dye in the sommer season, and att 7 if in winter. I desire to be put in a leaden coffin, of sheets lead, and that in one other of heart of oake to be covered with red leather, and that if there be no vault where I am to be buryed, then a small brick vault to be made to receive my coffin, this to be an additionall charge to what I have left in my will, and in case it cant so be that I be buryed at St. Albans, then I desire to be burned att St. George's Chappell at Windsor, in the lower end thereof in the Chapell called Urswicks Chappell, and the donation to St. Albans to be void and given to repair the said Chappell of Urswick, Chris Rawlinson Written April the 23 1729.

I do not know if the instructions were followed.

Christopher's other wishes, however, were not carried out. His estate, book collection and papers were not inherited by Rev Richard Rawlinson. According to Stockdale's Annals of Cartmel Christopher's land and buildings passed to his five cousins, daughters of his father's sisters Ann and K(C)atherine (verified by the National Archives document). Jeff wrote *'According to the Dictionary of National Biography, the furniture of Cark Hall was sold by auction at his death, and his manuscripts were at the same time disposed of in bundles and were bought for pence by the villagers'*. Valuable information about the history of Lancashire that Christopher had collected was lost.

Did Rev Richard Rawlinson buy some of Christopher's library and papers? He was a rich man, he had inherited £1000 from his father when he died in 1708 and was left money and goods by his mother when she died in 1725. His brother also died that year but he had problems arising from the deaths of both of them to deal with. He was dealing with the sale of his brother Thomas's library until 1734. Perhaps he was too preoccupied or was not aware of the sale or perhaps he did acquire some of Christopher's papers.

Richard died in 1755 and his library was bequeathed to the Bodleian Library, Oxford as he was unmarried. It comprised 5205 manuscripts bound in volumes. Why did Christopher decide that Richard was not the right person to leave his estate to? The draft will was written in 1729 and he did not die until 1733 so there had been plenty of time to ensure that he made a legal will. Has anyone ever looked at Richard's papers to see if any of Christopher's papers are amongst them? Would anyone like to investigate?

Information about Richard was found in an online blog accessed in December 2023.

<https://www.sjc.ox.ac.uk/discover/about-college/st-johns-and-colonial-past/blog/richard-rawlinson-part-1/>

Pat Rowland

<http://www.cartmel-peninsula-lhs.org.uk/>

Headless Cross, Cartmel

In the last newsletter I wrote about Headless Cross being renovated in 1914. These two undated pictures are in the Society's Research Archive and show what the corner looked like before the renovation.



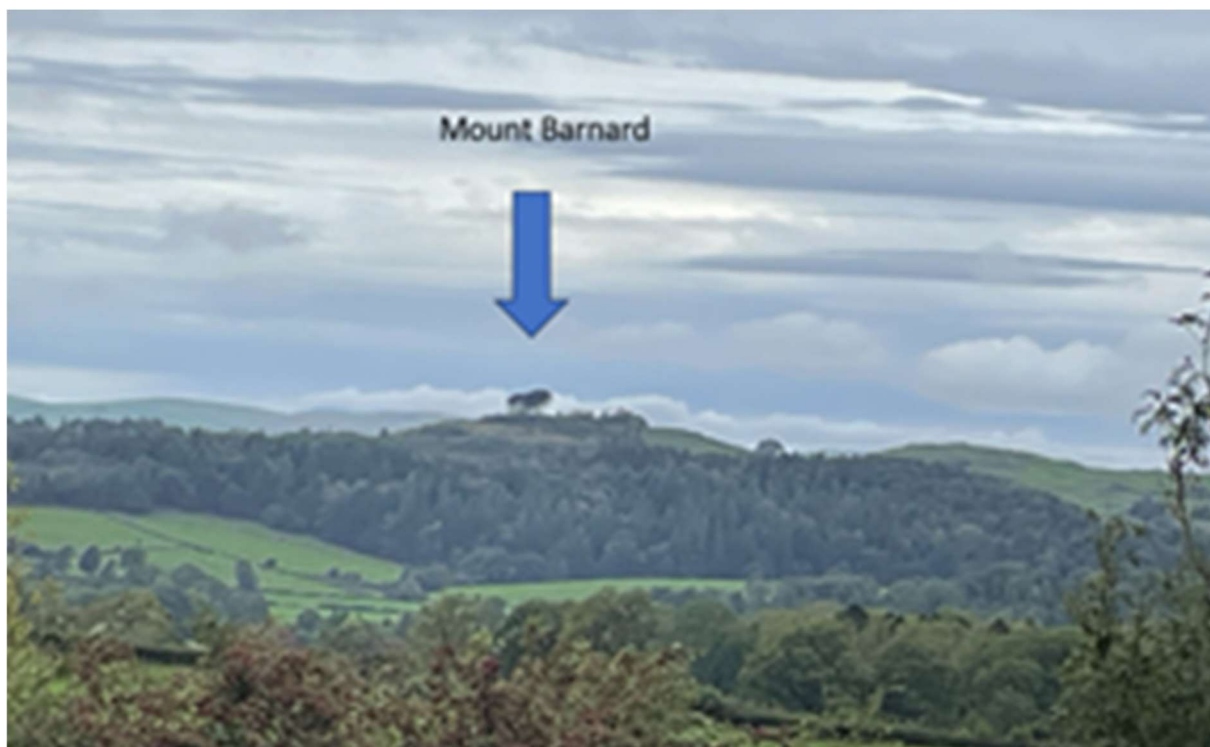
HEADLESS CROSS ON THE OLD ROAD, NEAR CARTMEL.



I have also been shown a picture of the new cross on its base taken in the Lindale yard of Frank F Birch, the mason, before it was moved to Cartmel. Thank you to David Birch for sharing it with us.

Pat Rowland

Mount Barnard, Cartmel



Between Cark and Cartmel the beech trees standing proud on top of the hill mark the high point of Mount Barnard and they have only recently become visible when the woodland around them was cleared. Mount Barnard is marked on maps and is 154 metres high but it is not the highest point on the ridge. However because of its location on the southern end of the ridge, to the north of Cark and west of Cartmel, it is very visible from all directions (grid ref SD 36191 78729). A friend who is involved with Barrow Ramblers told me recently that they use it as a navigation aid. When they noticed it recently they did not realise that it was a clump of trees but thought it looked like a ruined building which they christened 'The Abbey'. They were not aware that Mount Barnard was associated with Cartmel Priory. Davd Shore and I have recently written about how the hill's name connects it to the establishment of Cartmel Priory and how its height and visibility was used to produce an award-winning map. The article can be found on the society's website.

Pat Rowland

SOCIETY INFORMATION

Contacts (Committee)

Chairman: Stuart Harling (s.w.harling@gmail.com) or Tel 36296.

Secretary: Barbara Copeland (barbara.cland@btinternet.com)

Treasurer: Christine Dawson (christine567dawson@btinternet.com)

Lecture Programme: Rose Clark (roseclark83@gmail.com)

Membership Secretary: Nigel Mills (nigelmillspp@gmail.com)

Minute Secretary: Dianne Cameron (dianneccameron199@gmail.com)

Publication Sales: Catherine Bottomley (cnblever@hotmail.co.uk)

Research Enquiries: Pat Rowland (patrowlanduk@gmail.com)

Social Media: Geoff Beeson (geoffbeeson@icloud.com)

Vice Chairman/Newsletter Editor: Lyn Prescott (lynprescott@hotmail.com)

Website Editor: Phil Rowland, (philrowland414@gmail.com)

Meeting Programme

Lectures are held at 7.30 pm in Cartmel Village Hall. Visits are organized during the summer months. If you have any questions about meetings or visits, please contact Rose Clark.

Lectures

- Thursday 1st February: Ewen Cameron – Cartmel Priory
- Thursday 7th March: Ian Hodgkinson – The Plague in Cumbria
- Thursday 4th April: Diana Matthews – Lake Shore Villas of Windermere
- Thursday 9th May: Chris Craghill – Around the Farmhouse Fireplace

Visits

- Thursday 6th June: Trip to Rayrigg Hall & Gardens with Diana Matthews
- Thursday 4th July: Private Tour & Talk of Levens Hall & Gardens
- Date to be advised: Cark Airfield Walk and Talk with John Nixon

Lectures

- Thursday 5th September: Melinder Elder – Furness Slavery
- Thursday 3rd October: Liz Critchley – The Sankey Collection & Cartmel
- Thursday 28th November: AGM

News and Article Submission

- Members are invited to submit news items or snippets of interest to other members to the Newsletter Editor Lyn Prescott. **Copy deadline for the next Newsletter: 31st May 2024.**
- Research articles for inclusion on the website should be submitted to the Website Editor Phil Rowland.

Social Media

Social Media update – the Facebook Group has 272 members as at the end of the year, with a growing number of chats without becoming overwhelming - a good balance.

Geoff Beeson

Website

New Research Articles

Since the last Newsletter in October 2023, the following articles have been added to the website:

- Mount Barnard - Naming and Use in Map Making
- Hampsfield Hall
- Well Knowe House 1650 Datestone
- Datestones on 2 properties on Church Road, Allithwaite
- The 1972 plaque from Merlewood by Phil Rowland